



PROGRESS EDITION 2022



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PROUD MOMENTS

Awards Received



City employees, architects and construction partners: Sheila Catron, Dineen West, Clinton Roberts, Dawn Melton, Travis Brooks and Ryan McReynolds.

Kingsport City Hall

The new Kingsport City Hall has been honored with the Mark Miller Tennessee Public Works Project of the Year Award.

The award, given by the Tennessee Chapter of the American Public Works Association (TCAPWA), recognizes a project within the state that emphasizes outstanding planning, construction and management. The entire process of the new Kingsport City Hall project – from design to construction to project management – made

Kingsport's success worthy of statewide recognition.

The \$8.8 million Kingsport City Hall project has consolidated the city's most public-facing departments in one convenient location.

The building features advanced technology, including the Board of Mayor and Aldermen boardroom, and sets a higher standard for the daily operations of city government.

Please stop by for a visit at 415 Broad St., in Downtown Kingsport!

[Kingsport Alerts](#)

Kingsport Greenbelt

Tennessee Gov. Bill Lee and Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Commissioner David Salyers have recognized Kingsport Greenbelt as a 2021 Governor's Environmental Stewardship Award winner for natural resource conservation.



"Whether it's a private business, a government body or a college or university, we want to recognize those who are showing a commitment to protecting the environment in Tennessee," Lee said. "Our honorees this year have proved worthy of such recognition."



In 2020, the City of Kingsport completed the remaining mile of trail necessary to finish the Kingsport Greenbelt Master Plan, a project that began in the 1980s. The park connects residential neighborhoods, traditional parks, downtown, commercial districts, historical landmarks, schools and activity centers across the Kingsport community. Pedestrian and bicycle counters on the greenbelt indicate an average of 70,000 users per year.

[Kingsport Parks & Recreation](#)

50 Years of Bays Mountain Park & Planetarium

The past year's 50th anniversary celebrations at Bays Mountain Park & Planetarium have created enthusiasm for the park thanks to support from the community and the City of Kingsport.

Several exciting new projects are in the works.

The legacy trail will be the first new path through the park in nearly a decade and will take hikers, bikers and runners along a scenic ridge. The completed trail, which is expected to cover roughly 3.75 miles when complete, will be a contour trail along the south slope of the north ridge of Bays Mountain.

The path will provide a new route to the iconic Fire Tower via Azalea Trail and will become the longest trail in the park. The difficulty rating will be easy to intermediate. Watch



baysmountain.com for details about the legacy trail's grand opening, coming soon.

The legacy trail is a 50th anniversary project, made possible by donations from Woody Reeves and Visit Kingsport. The trail concept and proposed design came from the efforts of the 50th Anniversary Community Service Subcommittee, led by Chair Tony Williams.

A new amphitheater is also coming to Bays Mountain Park & Planetarium, thanks to a lead gift from Eastman with a donation match from the City of Kingsport. The existing Bays Mountain Park Amphitheater has been home to many events and programs over the years, such as Cinema Under the Stars, summer day camp activities and live storytelling at Campfire Tales. This venue has been an important part of the park's programs.



The new amphitheater will be similar in size to the existing one and located at a more convenient central area of the park, closer to the Nature Center. It will have a lower level with restrooms and changing rooms, outdoor seating for 341 occupants and ADA parking. It will be easier for guests to access the new amphitheater, allowing expansion of the programs offered there and furthering Bays' mission of educating the region about the natural area that surrounds us.

[Bays Mountain Park & Planetarium](#)
[BaysMountainPark](#)

Kingsport Aquatic Center Offers Exciting New Class

The Kingsport Aquatic Center (KAC) has partnered with the Greater Kingsport Family YMCA to host Parkinson's Aquatic Classes, aimed at the unique needs of community members living with Parkinson's disease.

"We are excited to have the opportunity to partner with the Greater Kingsport Family YMCA to offer a great program to the Parkinson's community in 2022," said Madison Gump, KAC's operations supervisor of programming. "As the year continues, we hope to extend the partnership to expand programs and services to the Parkinson's community."

The American Parkinson Disease Association states that one million people are living with

Parkinson's disease and a new diagnosis is given every nine minutes. The association also encourages patients to focus on improving symptoms and maintaining an active and positive lifestyle once diagnosed.

Aquatic exercise can improve motor impairments in people with Parkinson's disease. It also offers more benefits than land-based exercise for balance capacity, fear of falling and health-related quality of life.

To find out more about the Parkinson's Aquatic Classes or to see other events, programs and classes coming up at Kingsport Aquatic Center, visit swimkingsport.com.

[Kingsport Aquatic Center](#)



IMPACTFUL PROJECTS

Brickyard Park

Kingsport continues to make strong progress on property development at Brickyard Park with more significant work expected later this year.

For the past several years, Kingsport has worked to fully develop the area to include residential space, open green space, a skate park and pump track – all connected to downtown via a pedestrian bridge over the railroad tracks.

Residential Development

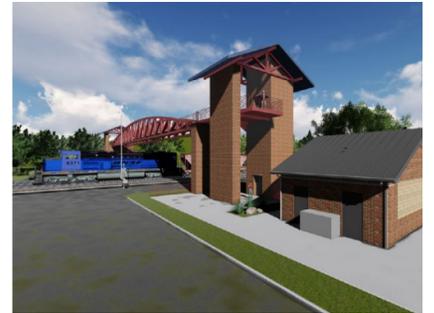
On the housing front, the Kingsport Economic Development Board will soon finalize a contract with Edens Investments of Raleigh, North Carolina, to bring 380 single-family homes, duplexes, townhouses and apartments to a 30-acre site on the property.

The residential development will include a playground, athletic courts, pool, dog park and community building. Edens also is planning to create a 5- to 8-acre public event space in the northwest quadrant of the property.

Infrastructure and roadway work are expected to begin this year, and homes will start after the first



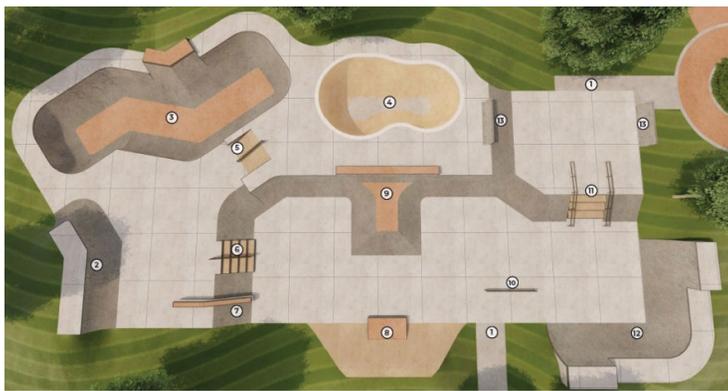
phase of infrastructure construction is completed. Full buildout is expected to take four to six years.



Pedestrian Bridge

A key piece of the Brickyard Park puzzle is a proposed pedestrian bridge over the CSX railroad, which will tie the development to downtown. Kingsport received a \$1.85 million Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant toward the \$3 million bridge construction. This project is currently in the environmental impact phase.

The ADA-compatible bicycle and pedestrian bridge will extend over the CSX railroad tracks to connect the Brickyard Park area with Downtown Kingsport at Centennial Park. It will provide immense improvement to pedestrian safety and connectivity within the city. It also will have a positive effect on our local economy by providing an essential link between neighborhoods and downtown jobs and amenities. This project plays a vital role in fueling growth through accessibility.



Skate Park and Pump Track

Just down the hill from this phase of the development, work is underway on two recreational features – a relocated Scott Adams Memorial Skate Park and a new pump track.

The skate park has been under construction since last fall and is scheduled for completion this spring. The pump track currently is in the design phase.

The skate park will have two bowls – backyard bowl and flow bowl – as well as a four-stair set with up-down rails, two quarter pipes, up-down hubba ledge, five-stair with down rail and a pyramid, among other features.



Fire Training Facility

New classrooms and equipment soon will help Kingsport Fire Department (KFD) members and other local and state emergency responders as they train to better serve our communities.

The KFD training facility is located on Horsecreek Lane off Wilcox Drive. The complex includes a burn building, maze trailer and scrapped vehicle – all of which are used to replicate real-life situations that firefighters face, such as a house fire, roof ventilation procedure or vehicle extrication.



New Classroom Space

Kingsport launched the facility in December 2015, and work is nearly complete on the latest addition, a 6,400-square-foot building with classroom space, offices, kitchenette and restrooms.

KFD Capt. Shea Payne, who also serves as the department's fire facilities coordinator, said the new classroom opening is planned for April 4 with use starting after that. "This will give us a lot of versatility," Payne said. "We can do outside drills, have multiple classes going at once and even utilize the 20-by-80-foot porch to have three different activities happening there simultaneously."

Enhanced Equipment

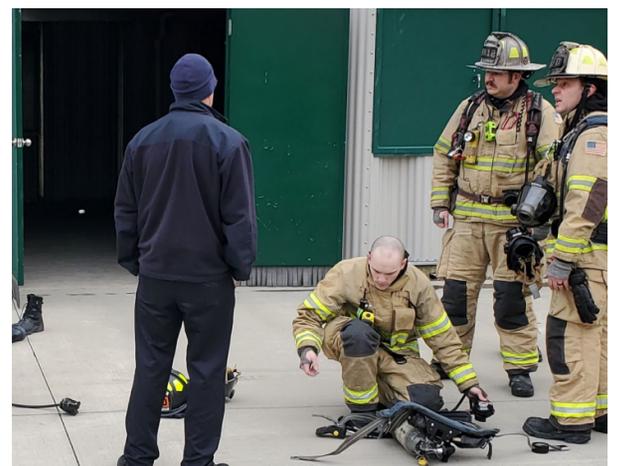
New equipment is on the way to the facility that will enhance the training opportunities for local and regional firefighters while also saving time to get them back on the job.

Kingsport has earmarked \$150,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the purchase of a cascade system and fire props for the training facility.

A cascade system allows firefighters to replenish their air packs right after training, rather than having to return to the station. This will save time and allow firefighters to immediately go back into service after leaving the training grounds.

The fire props – a metal replica car and dumpster – are ignited at the facility with either a propane or natural gas system, which allows firefighters to attack the flames just like they would any other vehicle fire.

Payne said he hopes to have the new equipment on hand by late spring or early summer. "The facility will



be all encompassing," he said. "You've got technical rescue, a smoke building with live fire training, controlled burn props and a classroom facility. The options and opportunities this complex provides will make it one of the best in the state."

INFRASTRUCTURE



Sustainable Paving Plan Continues as Priority

Kingsport will continue to make street resurfacing a high priority in the coming year while working under a sustainable program in which each city-owned street is paved every 20 to 25 years.

For the past six years, Kingsport has taken a data-driven approach to street resurfacing. Through the use of a specialized vehicle, all of Kingsport's roads were scanned in 2016 and ranked from 0 to 100 based on condition. This assessment found that the citywide average Pavement Condition Index (PCI) was 60.65.

The city set a goal of increasing its PCI by five points between 2016 and 2021. A second assessment completed last fall found the PCI had improved to 67.88 – more than a seven-point increase – on the way to the ultimate goal of a score of 70.

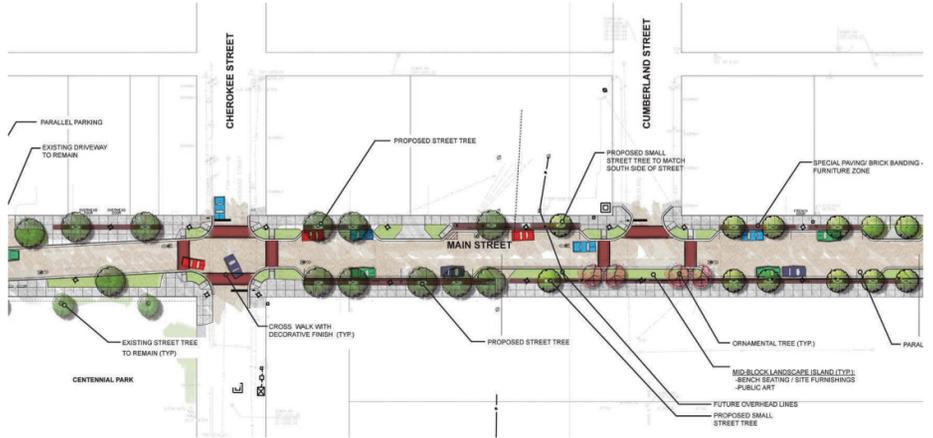
"We grew the percentage of roads in good shape and shrunk the percentage of roads in bad shape," Deputy City Manager Ryan McReynolds said. "We've not corrected all of the roads in Kingsport, but we have good data that says we're on the proper path."

In recent years, Kingsport has budgeted \$2 million to \$3 million annually for street resurfacing which pays to pave 17 to 21 miles of city roads each year. In addition to city-funded paving, nearly \$10 million in state funds were allocated last year for the repaving of 16 miles of state highways throughout the Model City.

"The sustainable paving program has exceeded our expectations," McReynolds said.

Next on the 2022 paving list is approximately 9 miles of streets on the eastern side of Lynn Garden Drive. Kingsport plans to repave Virginia, Mullins, Kyle, Walker and Goal streets and Clark Circle using \$500,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds with some additional in-house work by city crews.

Work will begin in the spring and wrap up by late summer. For more information on Kingsport's paving schedule visit pavekingsport.com.



Main Street Project

Main Street will soon undergo a major overhaul that will improve and beautify one of the main gateways into Downtown Kingsport.

Over the past century, the ground underneath Main Street has weakened, causing new asphalt to fail within a few years. Kingsport has committed to address this problem by completely rebuilding the road.

The plan includes removing the existing road structure and backfilling it with stone to produce a stable base. Telephone and cable lines will be moved underground, and power lines will be relocated to the opposite side of the road. Other roadway enhancements will include landscaping, bulb-outs (curb extensions) to provide additional pedestrian space and stamped brick crosswalks.

The city has advertised for bids on the project. Bids will be opened in April, and preconstruction meetings will follow.



"Work would then start later this summer in phases starting at the Sullivan Street end of Main and working toward Cherokee Street," Public Works Director Michael Thompson said. "Then, from Cherokee to Market Street until construction is complete."

The project will take approximately two years to complete with state and federal funding covering 80%.

"As we move toward construction, we'll work with the business owners and residents along Main Street to ease the burden of the project and communicate often with them," Thompson said. "We want to beautify the area, make it better and more vibrant. We don't want to hurt any businesses while we're in the process of helping them."



KATS Transit Garage

The Kingsport Area Transit Service (KATS) has awarded the contract for a new garage and maintenance facility that will be built adjacent to the current transit center. The garage will allow

buses to be parked out of weather elements and provide staff an area to complete light bus maintenance. It also will include a wash bay. The project is set to begin in late spring/early summer and will take approximately 12 months to complete.

Water and Sewer Projects

Water Treatment Plant High Service Pump Station Project

The high service pump station distributes clean drinking water to more than 102,000 customers in the city's water service area. The station, built in 1970, houses three pumps. Although the pumps have been replaced over time, the original electrical equipment is still in place.

Design is complete, and construction is expected to begin this year on a project to add another pump and update the electrical equipment. The additional pump will be added to increase redundancy and provide ample water

if a pump must be removed from service for maintenance or repair.

The estimated construction cost is \$6.4 million and will be funded through a low-interest loan through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). The city also has applied for a \$1.5 million grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration.



Stormwater Mapping Project

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) has set aside a portion of the state's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds specifically for water, wastewater and stormwater projects, distributed to cities and counties through grants. The city will use \$600,000 from ARP funds for a stormwater mapping project.

The federal Clean Water Act requires the City of Kingsport to establish and maintain a stormwater management program. One of the program's activities includes the operation, construction and maintenance of stormwater conveyance facilities. A good asset management plan and accurate mapping are keys to addressing aging infrastructure and making cost-effective decisions to maximize limited financial resources.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Growth Abounds as Kingsport Thrives

With residential development, industry investment and retail growth, the City of Kingsport continues to thrive because of strong partnerships and key attributes that invite and retain people and commerce.

Residential Development

The city continues to welcome many new residents, causing a spike in residential development to meet that demand. According to U.S. Census 2020 data, Kingsport's population grew 15.1% from 2010 to 2020. Kingsport currently has more than 2,500 housing units in the works, adding to the existing 23,000 households already within the city. This flourishing market will have a considerable impact on the city's economic growth over the next several years.

Over the past year, Kingsport staff and Board of Mayor and Aldermen have made a concentrated effort to assist in making Kingsport an attractive place for developers and builders to work. Strategic planning initiatives focusing

on housing and development included hiring a development coordinator to serve as a single point of contact, as well as new regulations and processes to streamline reviews and approvals.

The city has invested in new technology to allow builders, contractors and developers to apply for permits and submit plans electronically. Available on the city website and via the ConnectKingsport app, the portal provides real-time updates to applicants, letting them know where their submittal is in the process while attracting a diverse group of builders and developers from various locations on a local, regional and even national level.

[f Move to Kingsport](#)

Brickyard Park Fast Facts

- Housing development to begin this year
- Scott Adams Memorial Skate Park is almost complete
- Plans for Cement Hill to become passive park with walking and biking paths

Eastman Invests \$250 Million in New Kingsport Plant



In January of last year, Eastman announced its plan to build one of the world's largest material-to-material molecular recycling facilities. The new facility will start taking shape this spring. Progress on the molecular recycling plant, located on the southeast side of the existing plant, will be visible from John B. Dennis Highway.

The results of insight™



New Businesses

More than 20 new businesses have opened in Downtown Kingsport within the past year with two well-known businesses – the Haggie Shop and Variety Gifts – planning to reopen with new concepts.

Two investment firms are looking at a possible development on the east side of downtown, which could include a multi-purpose building with residential, commercial and parking areas as well as an adjacent park.

New businesses are also taking root in other parts of town. Tribe Nutrition opened last spring on Stone Drive; Kingsport Nutrition opened last summer in the Greenacres Shopping

Center; Tractor Supply opened on East Stone Drive last fall; Ashley HomeStore is relocating to the former Best Buy building on Stone Drive; and Dollar General opened two new stores in Kingsport in 2021.

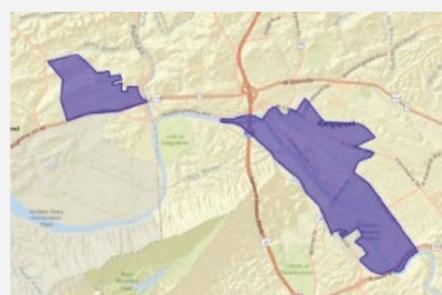
New businesses recently opened or coming soon to Kingsport include Scooter's Coffee in Colonial Heights; Back Yard Burgers' Allandale location; and Huey Magoo's, which serves fast food chicken and is coming to the Kingsport Pavilion. Construction recently wrapped on a new Fast Pace Urgent Care in the Southland Shopping Center.

[f Kingsport Economic Development](#)

Opportunity Zones

An opportunity zone is an economic development tool that provides tax advantages for certain investments in lower income areas. The program was created by the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 and since then, more than 8,700 opportunity zones have been created in the United States and its territories.

The purpose of the program is to spur economic growth and job creation in low-income communities while providing tax benefits to investors. Kingsport has two such zones – one in Sullivan County that covers a large portion of the downtown area and



a smaller, second one in Hawkins County. Potential investors have several incentives and grants to pursue, such as the Opportunity Fund for downtown development.

[f Kingsport Economic Development](#)

Domtar: Plant Convergence Update

The Domtar overhaul project of turning the paper manufacturing facility into a mill that creates containerboard material for cardboard boxes is on schedule. The \$350 million investment will provide a stable industry while helping to bring back and create new jobs.

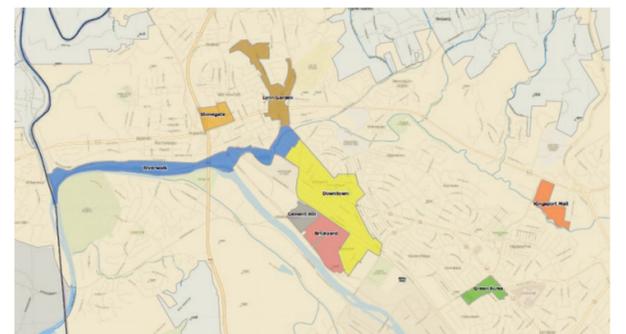


Kingsport Center for Digital Innovation

Innovation Village, a multi-phase endeavor supporting entrepreneurship, started in 2017 and is expanding to include a new phase, the Center for Digital Innovation. The new digital media center will build upon the center's goal to expand access and opportunity to the arts for entrepreneurs and creators of central Appalachia. The center is supported by Create Appalachia, East Tennessee State University (ETSU) Research Corporation, Kingsport Office of Small Business Development & Entrepreneurship, Northeast State Community College, Regional Center for Advanced Manufacturing and Sync Space Entrepreneur Center.



[f Innovation Village Kingsport](#)



Lynn Garden Redevelopment District

Last fall, the Board of Mayor and Aldermen created the Lynn Garden redevelopment district, a 118-acre site around the Stone Drive and Lynn Garden Drive intersection that extends to Tranbarger, Allen and Chadwick drives with property on both sides of Lynn Garden Drive to the end of Truxton Drive.

The Redevelopment District opens that area for financial incentives through the Kingsport Housing and Redevelopment Authority. "Our goal with establishing the Lynn Garden district is to provide a tool that will spur economic development," City Manager Chris McCartt said. "The Lynn Garden corridor can benefit from the establishment of this district and see positive redevelopment over time."

[f Kingsport Alerts](#)

PARTNERS



The past year brought opportunities for tourism recovery across our region and specifically for Visit Kingsport as the city's tourism organization.

In 2021, the Visit Kingsport team hosted, supported and operated more than 30 sporting events, 22 group meetings and three festivals resulting in a combined estimated economic impact of \$35 million.

Kingsport Songwriters Week was held virtually in February 2021 as part of Tennessee Songwriters Week. Organic social content from the week reached 70,000 viewers across 15 states and Canada. The success of that event resulted in Kingsport serving as a qualifying round host of the 2022 Songwriters Week held in February.

Looking ahead, tourism will continue to play a key role in the economy of our region, and it starts with local support. As Visit Kingsport continues to promote our city as a tourism



destination, here's how you can help: Plan a staycation, visit a restaurant or attraction you haven't been to in a while and always share the love of local via social media by using the #VisitKingsport hashtag.

Visit Kingsport is looking forward to a successful 2022, which got off to a strong start with four collegiate championship tournaments

in the month of February. There is a full slate of events planned for the year ahead, and the entire community is invited to Racks by the Tracks, Wing Fling and Fun Fest. Be sure to follow Visit Kingsport on social media for all event announcements.

Visit Kingsport visitkingsport.com



Kingsport Theatre Guild Celebrates 75th Year

Kingsport Theatre Guild is entering its 75th year! The community theatre promotes growth and education, offers encouragement and hope, builds self-esteem and engages minds. The 75th anniversary will be celebrated with a fantastic season of must-see shows.

After opening with "Boeing, Boeing," a 1960s French farce, Kingsport Theatre Guild will round out the year with "Noises Off" and "The Red Velvet Cake War" and fan-favorite musicals, "Little Shop of Horrors," "Rent" and "White Christmas."

Kingsport Theatre Guild brings live theatre productions to the region with casts and crews of volunteer community members. Find tickets for upcoming productions at kingsporttheatreguild.square.site as well as contact information to learn how to get involved with the local theatre community.

Kingsport Theatre Guild



This is Kingsport

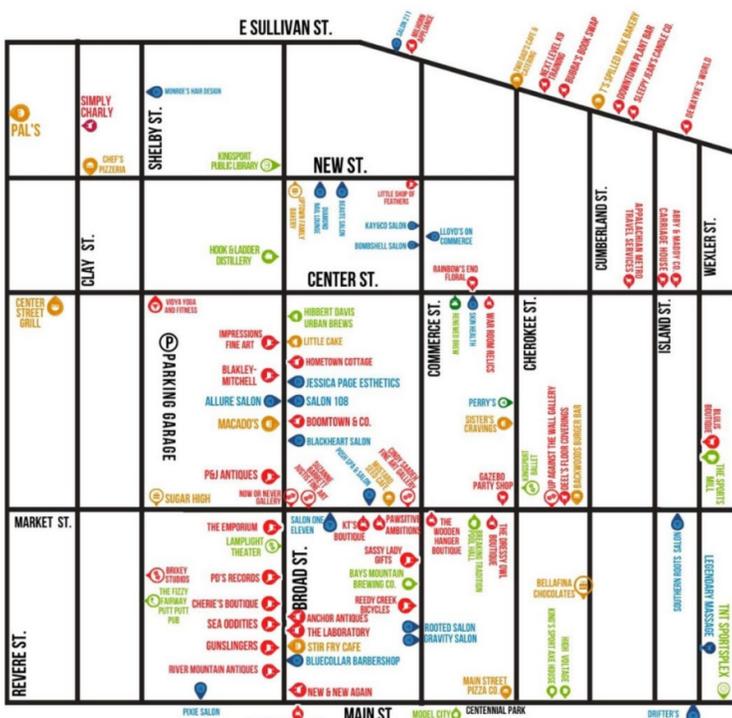
This is Kingsport is the place to go to find the very best the city has to offer. With a new events calendar, This is Kingsport has created a space for residents to find live performances, social happenings, food and drink recommendations and shopping opportunities across the city.

The calendar also includes events from the city's community partners such as United Way, Symphony of the Mountains, Kingsport Chamber and the Downtown Kingsport Association, making it a one-stop shop to find fun activities for the whole family.

This is Kingsport also is responsible for bringing exciting new events to the community, such as last December's Caroling at Christmas in the Park, which saw dozens of families come together for a night of holiday songs and celebration in downtown's Glen Bruce Park.

In 2022, This is Kingsport will continue its mission of bringing quality entertainment to our city's residents and making the question of "What is there to do in Kingsport?" a lot easier to answer.

This is Kingsport thisiskingsport.com



Downtown Kingsport Association

The Downtown Kingsport Association builds upon its established goal of advancing downtown businesses while engaging the community to promote our city's unique charm.

In the past year, downtown has welcomed 18 new businesses and promoted cooperation among businesses with sponsored events. One of the events is Downtown Shop & Hop on the first Thursday of each month when more than 35 businesses extend business hours into the night, and many offer special deals on merchandise and serve free light refreshments. The association plans to continue Shop & Hop events throughout 2022, welcoming more businesses into the fold and putting the city's ever-growing dining and retail sector on display.

With a vibrant live music scene, thriving small business and a family and pet-friendly atmosphere, Downtown Kingsport continues to be the heart of our community.

Downtown Kingsport Association



LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE

New Tech

The city is always working to make city services, issue reporting and information about classes, activities, events and more readily available and easy to access. Technology helps connect residents to the information and services they need, and Kingsport has implemented two important tools to make that process better.

CivicRec

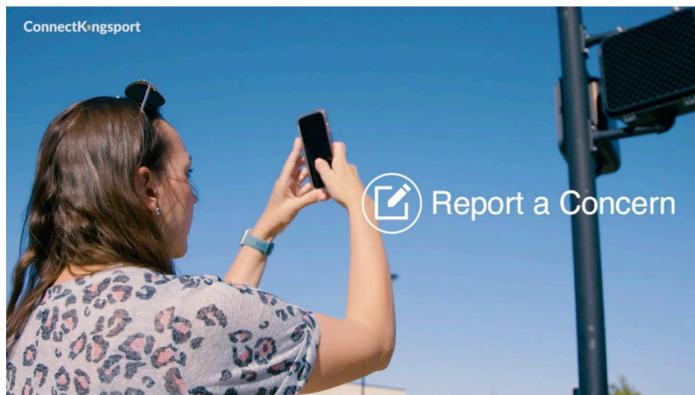
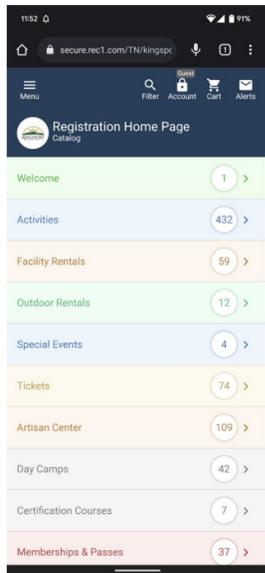
The Kingsport Leisure Services Department is now using software called CivicRec that allows residents to find information about all of the activities, classes and sporting events taking place within the city.

In addition, residents can register for events, make payments, manage memberships and reserve facilities, all conveniently online through a computer, tablet or smartphone.

CivicRec also is available on the home screen menu of the free ConnectKingsport app.

“Our goal is to have good online and mobile capabilities so people can use their phones to pre-purchase tickets or reserve rental space in a very user-friendly way,” said Kari Matheney, leisure services analyst with the City of Kingsport.

Bays Mountain Park & Planetarium, Kingsport Aquatic Center, Kingsport Farmers Market, Kingsport Senior Center, Office of Cultural Arts and Parks and Recreation all are in the CivicRec system. Additional services include digital waivers for sporting events and cancellation notifications.



ConnectKingsport App

ConnectKingsport is a mobile application that allows residents to have a direct line of communication to request services and report non-emergency issues such as potholes and graffiti. The app also is a great source of information on all things Kingsport with links to the city website, animal services, KATS and more. Additionally, citizens can now access a calendar of city and community events with the click of a button.

Visit bit.ly/ConnectKingsportApp or search for “ConnectKingsport” in the App Store or Google Play. Choose from the list of resources on the home screen. For example, tap “Report a Concern” and with GPS location recognition, a menu of

common issues will be available.

Users can upload photos or videos to accompany requests and even track the status of reports they or other members of the community have submitted until the issue is resolved.

Links to download the app, as well as a link for the desktop report form also are available at kingsporttn.gov. Download the free ConnectKingsport app today to be a part of making Kingsport a great place to live, work and play!

[Kingsport Alerts](#)



Promoting Fitness and Fun



The Parks and Recreation team has been busy delivering opportunities for fun and healthy entertainment to the people of our community.

Parks and Recreation continues to achieve high-quality play in its yearly adult and youth sports leagues in basketball, baseball, softball, volleyball, community soccer and the Miracle League. Looking ahead, the department will continue to offer fun opportunities such as archery classes, pickleball activities, special events for dogs, adaptive programs, concerts at Allandale Mansion, summer camps and various holiday activities.

Learn more about upcoming events by visiting kingsportparksandrecreation.org.

[Kingsport Parks & Recreation](#)



Fox Den Natural Playground

Bays Mountain Park & Planetarium has been a family-favorite destination for generations. The park offers multiple ways for children to learn, explore and have fun. A new project for kids is on the horizon at Bays Mountain Park: a natural playground.

Parker Fox loved visiting Bays Mountain Park & Planetarium. After he passed away, his parents David and Brenda, wanted to contribute to the park and memorialize their son. The Fox Den Natural Playground will include a playground and gathering area for families.

“We want to honor our son and give the park a lasting feature,” the Fox family said. “Our favorite

idea was a natural, rustic playground that incorporates the beauty of the forest.”

Currently, the Fox family and park staff are exploring structure and location options in the park to provide families an area to relax, explore and simply enjoy the outdoors together. Citizens who are interested in making a donation to support the Fox Den Natural Playground may contribute at baysmountain.com/give.

[Bays Mountain Park & Planetarium](#)

[BaysMountainPark](#)

baysmountain.com

Netherland Inn Swinging Bridge

The Netherland Inn Swinging Bridge connecting Kingsport Greenbelt trail users to Long Island over the South Fork of the Holston River will undergo refurbishment.

Joists will be replaced, and a new fabric fence will be installed on the sides of the bridge. Damaged deck boards will be replaced, and the exposed steel portions of the bridge will be repainted.

The project is set to start in early April and should be completed within two to three months.

KINGSPORT CITY SCHOOLS



Kingsport City Schools (KCS) continues the mission to inspire, cultivate and impact students in our community. Both the district and the schools again have amassed an impressive list of accomplishments.



KCS serves more than 7,600 students in grades Pre-K-12 and, with more than 1,250 employees, is one of Kingsport's largest employers. The district boasts 355 teachers and administrators who hold advanced degrees and seven who are nationally board certified.

Students attend one of eight elementary schools, two middle schools, Cora Cox Academy, Dobyns-Bennett High School or D-B EXCEL, a high school program of choice. Schools within the district are recognized by leading organizations as among the top schools in Tennessee and the United States.

Kingsport City Schools State & District Accolades

- Dr. Chris Hampton, Tennessee Department of Education 2021-22 Principal of the Year
- Dr. Jeff Moorhouse, 2022 First Tennessee District Superintendent of the Year
- Vicki Johnston, 2022 First Tennessee District Supervisor of the Year
- Tennessee Value Added Assessment System (TVAAS) top composite score of five in system-wide literacy, system-wide numeracy, system-wide literacy and numeracy, and the overall system-wide composite score in 2021 and 2022.
- Anna Dickison, V.O. Dobbins, Sr. and William A. Clark, 2021 inductees, Kingsport City Schools Hall of Fame
- Freshman student named Tennessee STEM Innovation Network 2021 Statewide Design Challenge winner

D-B EXCEL

- R'Matey's Underwater Robotics team advanced to international competition for third consecutive year in 2021

Dobyns-Bennett High School Accomplishments

- 2021 U.S. News & World Report Best High Schools Ranking
- 2021 Newsweek Top High School
- 146 students scored 30 or above on ACT
- Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFJROTC) earned 13th Unit of Distinction status
- Cyber Tribe among top-ranked high school robotics teams in Tennessee and finished number 10 in the world in 2021
- 2021 Bands of America, Class AAA National Champions
- 2021 Tennessee Concrete Association's Architectural and Engineering Award

Class of 2021

- Approximately 17 million in scholarship dollars awarded
- 2 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program candidates
- 2 perfect AP Exam scores
- 12 AP Capstone Diploma recipients
- 173 AP Scholars
- 3 National Merit Program Semi-Finalists



Athletics

- KCS is proud to have some of the most successful athletic programs in America at Dobyns-Bennett High School:
 - No. 1 winningest high school baseball team in country
 - No. 1 winningest high school basketball team in country
 - No. 2 winningest high school football team in Tennessee
 - Andy Hubbard, all-time winningest head softball coach
 - Ryan Wagner, second all-time winningest head baseball coach
 - Jackson Hurst, 2021 AAA 152 Wrestling State Champion
 - Tre Morrisette, 2021 AAA 160 Wrestling State Champion and Class AAA Outstanding Wrestler
 - Brennan Watkins, 2021 AAA 132 Wrestling State Champion runner-up
 - Willa Rogers, 2021 Girls' Singles Tennis State Champion

Elementary and Middle Schools



Adams and Johnson Elementary Schools

- 2022 U.S. News & World Report 2022 Best Elementary Schools in Tennessee
- 2021 Tennessee Department of Education Reward School

Johnson Elementary School

- Named Lighthouse School of Distinction by Franklin Covey

Kennedy and Lincoln Elementary Schools

- 2021-2022 Gold Level RTI2-B Model of Demonstration Schools by the Tennessee Behavior Supports Project at The University of Tennessee

Roosevelt Elementary School

- Selected in 2021 for the second cohort of trauma-informed schools in Tennessee

Washington Elementary School

- Tennessee STEM School Designation for 2021 by the Tennessee Department of Education and the Tennessee STEM Innovation Network

Robinson Middle School

- 2022 U.S. News & World Report Best Middle Schools in Tennessee
- Preston Woods, 2021 Middle School Discus State Champion
- RNR Science Olympiad, first place overall at Tennessee Division B team tournament, represented the state at the 2021 national tournament

Sevier Middle School

- The Sequoyah Scribe student newspaper awarded first place Best of Show in Junior High/Middle School category by National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA)